

## Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13

SY-10 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 RSR-01 /144 W

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R 102100Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3221

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 5946

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT,AR

SUBJ: RECENT GOA ACTIONS TO COUNTER TERRORIST ACTS

1. SUMMARY: THE MINISTERS OF DEFENSE, INTERIOR AND JUSTICE MET YESTERDAY TO CONSIDER VARIOUS PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN COMBATING KIDNAPPINGS, EXTORTION AND TERRORISM. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE THE DAY BEFORE INTERIOR MINISTER LLAMBI LISTED THE GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE IN THE COUNTER TERRORIST STRUGGLE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE COMMISSION ON POLITICS AND SECURITY MET YESTERDAY TO CONSIDER VARIOUS MODIFICATIONS TO THE LAW WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO COUNTER THE CONTINUING WAVE OF KIDNAPPINGS AND EXTORTION. THE COMMISSION IS COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING THREE CABINET MEMBERS: MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR LLAMBI, MINISTER OF JUSTICE BENITEZ AND DEFENSE MINISTER ROBLEDO.

3. A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS LISTED THE FOLLOWING POINTS AS HAVING BEEN CONSIDERED IN THE MEETING:

A) A REFORMATION OF THE PENAL CODE TO RAISE THE PENALTIES FOR THE CRIME OF KIDNAPPING AND TO IMPOSE PENALTIES ON THOSE PERSONS WHO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE CRIME BUT DO NOT REPORT IT;

B) ESTABLISHING THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY RANSOMS PAID SHALL BE BORNE BY THE PERSON AUTHORIZING PAYMENT AND NOT BY ANY COMPANY;

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C) CREATION OF AN INTERPROVINCIAL SECURITY COMMAND COMPOSED OF

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE MINISTRIES OF INTERIOR, DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, FEDERAL POLICE, PREFECTURAL NAVAL, GENDARMERIA NACIONAL AND THE POLICE OF BUENOS AIRES, SANTA FE AND CORDOBA PROVINCES. THIS BODY WILL BE CHARGED WITH THE COORDINATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS WITH REGARD TO KIDNAPPINGS, EXTORTION AND TERRORISM WITH AN AIM TO AVOIDING JURISDICTIONAL PROBLEMS;

D) ISSUANCE OF A DECREE AMPLIFYING REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW ON THE POSSESSION OF FIREARMS; AND

E) CREATION OF THE ELECTORAL (?) COMMAND AND THE DESIGNATION OF ARMY CINC CARCAGNO AS ITS HEAD.

4. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 8 LLAMBI OUTLINED THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SECURITY FORCES IN COMBATING THE CRIMES IN QUESTION. HE LISTED 11 KIDNAPPINGS AND 16 CASES OF EXTORTION AS HAVING BEEN SOLVED, 82 PERSONS AS HAVING BEEN IMPLICATED, A LARGE SUM OF MONEY RECOVERED, AND THE SEIZURE OF 302 FIREARMS, 30 OF WHICH WERE MACHINE GUNS. HE ALSO ISSUED A REMINDER THAT THE REGISTRATION OF FIREARMS REGARDLESS OF CALIBER WAS NOW IN EFFECT (BA-5765).

5. COMMENT: THE GOVERNMENT'S LIST OF ACHIEVEMENTS IS HARDLY IMPRESSIVE, EVEN THOUGH IT IS PROBABLY EXAGGERATED. KIDNAPPINGS ARE RUNNING AT THE RATE OF ONE A DAY OR MORE. MISSION POLICE CONTACTS STATE THAT THEY KNOW OF NO BASIS FOR THE MINISTER'S OPTIMISTIC REPORT AND ASSERTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS. THE CASES THAT WERE ALLEGEDLY SOLVED INVOLVED COMMON CRIMINALS KIDNAPPING ARGENTINE CITIZENS. THEY DID NOT INVOLVE ORGANIZED TERRORIST GROUPS OR HAVE FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN AS VICTIMS. LA NACION REPORTED AUGUST 10 THAT OVER 100 ENTREPRENEURS, FEARING FOR THEIR LIVES, HAVE LEFT CORDOBA, WHERE KIDNAPPINGS OF BUSINESSMEN HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY NUMEROUS. STILL THE MOVES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ARE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION AND ARE AN IMPROVEMENT OVER THE PREVIOUS INACTION.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Subject:** RECENT GOA ACTIONS TO COUNTER TERRORIST ACTS  
**TAGS:** PINT, AR, INTERPROVINCIAL SECURITY COMMAND  
**To:** STATE  
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